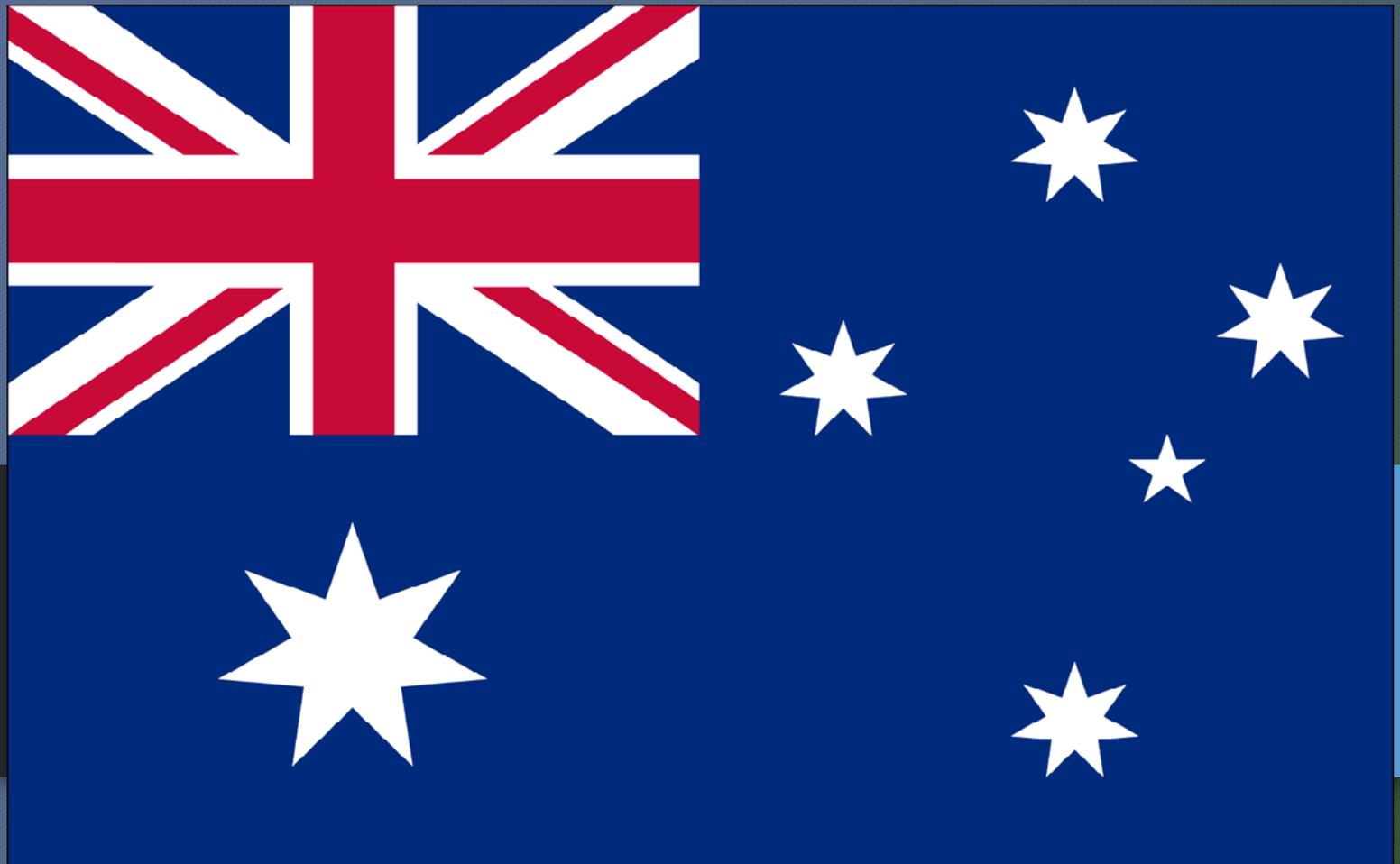


Australia

- This week we are going to find out about Australia.
- Read the information on Australia on the next few pages.
- You can find out more about Australia by visiting:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zyhp34j/articles/zf26rj6>
- Once you have gathered enough information, create something on Australia and what you have found out. You might want to focus on one particular creature, a key fact, an important landmark or mark a big fact file poster on Australia. You could make a PowerPoint, a poster, a leaflet etc.

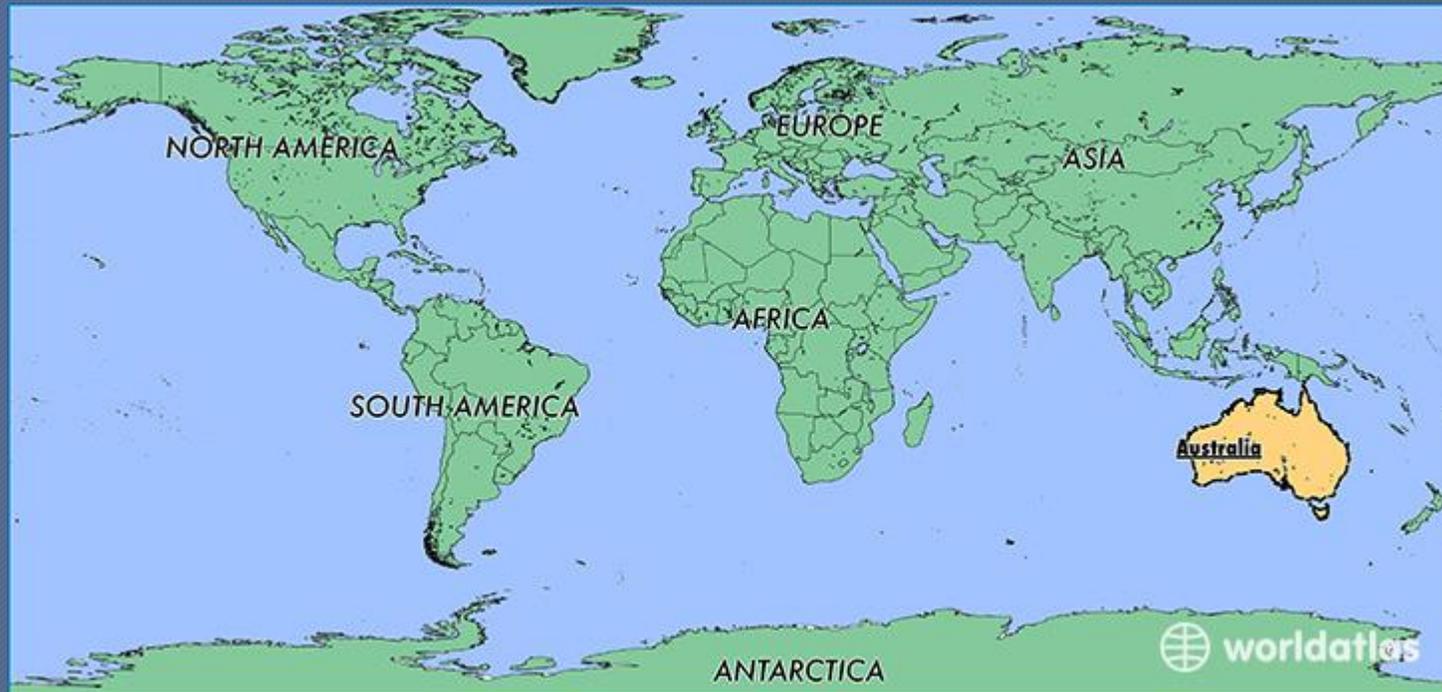
Australia's flag is made up from the Union flag and six stars which represent each state in Australia.



The Union flag appears because Australia used to be a British Colony. It is now a member of the Commonwealth.

Australia

Australia on a world map



Six States of Australia



Information

- The capital of Australia is Canberra.
- There are roughly three times more people living in England than Australia.
- The main language spoken is English.
- The currency here is the Australian dollar.
- Australia is roughly 24 times the size of the British Isles.
- Australia is a member of the Commonwealth.
- We share the same Queen; Queen Elizabeth II.



Weather



- Many people think that Australia is a hot country but it depends on where you are. It is hot in the deserts, very warm on the tropical coasts and cool in the snowy mountains.
- The weather in Australia can sometimes go through all four seasons in one day! It often rains in the summer, and is quite sunny during winter.
- January and February are the warmest months and June and July are the coldest months.
- The middle part of the country is called the outback. The outback does not get very much rain and is very dry. Since the weather is so hot very few humans live out there.

People in Australia

- Australia is like the United Kingdom in many ways. Most people live in or near cities. They speak English.
- Australians drive on the left side of the road and drink tea, just like they do in Britain.
- The first people to live in Australia were aborigines. Aboriginal means first. Today there are still aborigines in Australia. Some live on ranches (called stations or property) or in cities. You can see some examples of their beautiful art if you visit Australia.
- There are very few schools in the Outback (the middle of the country). Children who cannot get to school use a two-way radio to hear their teachers' lessons.



Sport in Australia

- Australia's most popular sport is Cricket. Australia won the Cricket World Cup in 1999 and 2003.
- Another favourite sport in Australia is Australian Rules Football. It is a little bit like football and rugby.
- Rugby and football are also extremely popular.
- Australia is also famous for the boomerang. The aborigines used the boomerang as a weapon. Today, children use it as a toy.



Landmarks

- Australia is home to some of the most beautiful scenery and landmarks in the world.
- One of these is the Great Barrier Reef. It is the largest coral reef in the world. Coral reefs are places where many thousands of small animals live together.
- Another is Uluru. It is one of the oldest rocks on Earth. It is made of one gigantic stone and is in middle of Australia.



Landmarks



- Sydney Harbour Bridge is the largest single arch bridge in the world. It's nicknamed the 'coathanger' because of the way it looks.
- The Sydney Opera house is a famous building in Australia. It is a concert hall. It is made to look like sails of a boat.

Food

- Australians really enjoy barbequing their food and especially enjoy grilling seafood.
- Many Australians enjoy a traditional breakfast that includes fruit juice, cereal, fried eggs and sausages, and hot tea or coffee.
- Meat, potatoes and vegetables are popular at dinnertime.
- Over the years, people from all over the world have moved to Australia. So, dishes from other parts of the world are very popular; including Asian, Greek, Italian and Thai dishes.
- Vegemite is a popular spread in Australia. It is similar to Marmite and is spread on bread and sandwiches, and used to flavour soups and stews.



Animals

- The most famous animals in Australia are marsupials.
- A marsupial has a pouch to carry its young. Kangaroos and koalas are marsupials.



Animals

- In the outback, there are sheep and cattle ranches. Sheep are raised for wool and for meat. There are about ten times more sheep than people in Australia.
- There are many other interesting animals in Australia. When the kookaburra calls, it sounds like a laugh.
- Other well known Australian animals include the emu, wallaby, platypus and the Tasmanian devil.



Animals and Plants

- Australia is also home to many sharks.
- Australia is home to many flowering plants that cannot be found in any other place in the world.

